

Wing hosts memorial golf tournament

17th Annual Janet Vargas Memorial Golf Tournament

The New Mexico Air National Guard is proud to host the 17th Annual Janet Vargas Memorial Golf Tournament.

This year's charity event is scheduled for Friday, June 20, at the Tijeras Arroyo Golf Course, Kirtland AFB.

The Janet Vargas Memorial Fund is a Combined Federal Campaign and United Way recognized charity, which has been in existence for more than 20 years. All donations are used to provide a special holiday party at Peter Piper Pizza and a picnic at a local recreational area for the families of and the children undergoing cancer treatments at the University of New Mexico Pediatrics Oncology Ward.

The holiday party includes a meal, game tokens, gifts, entertainment and a special visit by Santa Claus, for all in attendance. In addition, all children unable to attend receive a gift, delivered before Christmas.

The picnic includes a meal and special activities at a local amusement center or recreational area. The charity also funds special requests by the cancer clinic to include wheel chairs, furniture, videotapes, VCR's and televisions. The children who benefit from the Janet Vargas Memorial Fund are battling life-threatening illnesses and these additional items make their stay in the hospital a little easier.

The fund also takes great pride in providing assistance to the Ronald McDonald House. The Janet Vargas Memorial Fund has donated new TV's for the rooms, new rocking chairs, hand held video games, VCR's and provides annual maintenance of the house playground that the charity completely remodeled in 1985. The families who stay in the Ronald McDonald House must cope with a sick child while trying to

support their family despite making frequent trips to Albuquerque for treatments in local hospitals, often stretching their budgets to the limit.

This year, the goal of \$10,000 has been set to be donated to the Janet Vargas Memorial Fund at the conclusion of the tournament. The contributions of community based organizations makes it possible for the charity to enhance the lives of these brave kids fighting cancer and genuinely touch the lives of hundreds of families with sick children throughout the state of New Mexico. Without the generosity of our local community, the Janet Vargas Memorial Fund would not be what it is today.

All donated gifts, prizes, and contributions of food, beverages, or services, regardless of value, will be greatly appreciated by the tournament committee. All company or organizational promotional items, which can be included in the registration packages, are welcome. All donations will be used for prizes or tournament support and will not be authorized for resale by anyone.

Anyone interested in contributing can use the Official Contributor form on page 10 and mail it in by June 7. Receipts for tax purposes will be provided upon request.

Anyone interested in signing up for the tournament can fill out the entry form on page 11 with fees paid by June 14. Either form can be mailed to:

Chairperson, Tracy O'Neal
1121 Lawrence Dr NE
Albuquerque NM 87123

or call Tracy O'Neal at 480-1839 for more information.

What you should know about Smallpox

Smallpox was once worldwide in scope and declared eradicated from the world in 1980.

Now, the Smallpox issue is at hand again.

There are two primary forms of the Smallpox disease. One form is Variola major which is lethal 30 percent of the time. The other form is Variola minor (alastrim) and is lethal one percent of the time.

A smallpox patient would be most infectious from onset of rash, marked by temperatures greater than 101 degrees in Fahrenheit or 38.8 degrees Centigrade.

A smallpox outbreak would significantly degrade combat mission capability, because almost all troops are susceptible.

Terrorists or governments hostile to the United States may have or could

obtain the variola virus for use as a weapon of mass destruction. This could significantly affect our military readiness.

The Food and Drug Administration recently licensed a limited supply of smallpox vaccine made by Wyeth Laboratories, called Dryvax®.

The vaccine is made from virus called vaccinia, which is another "pox"-type virus related to smallpox. The vaccine helps the body develop immunity to smallpox. The vaccine does not contain smallpox virus and cannot spread smallpox

To learn more about Smallpox and vaccines go to:

www.smallpox.army.mil
www.bt.cdc.gov

Or you can email your questions to:
vaccines@amedd.army.mil

Smallpox historical perspective

1776: Smallpox: US forces too weak to capture Quebec: George Washington orders variolation of Continental Army against smallpox

1796: Edward Jenner uses cowpox virus from milkmaid to prevent smallpox in a young boy

1812: War Dept orders Jennerian vaccine of US troops

1919: Citizens outraged that Woodrow Wilson permits smallpox vaccination of Armed Forces

1980: WHO declares Earth free of smallpox

1984: DOD restricts vaccination to recruits at basic training policy intermittent: shortage of VIG, HIV testing begins

1990: DOD temporarily discontinues SMA vaccinations

2002: 60 percent of active duty never vaccinated against smallpox